

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 06155 310422Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 SSC-01 CPR-03 HEW-04 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
IO-13 /103 W

-----021313 310429Z /20

R 301115Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9310
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINR, AF
SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF PARTY POSITIONS OF CERTAIN AFGHAN
CABINET MINISTERS

REF: KABUL 5958

1. A JULY 27 PRESS NOTICE FROM BAKHTAR, THE OFFICIAL
NEWS AGENCY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN
(DRA), REVEALED THE POSITIONS WITHIN THE PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA) OF THE FOLLOW-
ING MINISTERS OF THE AFGHAN CABINET:

(A) DR. SHAH WALI, MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IS
A MEMBER OF THE SECRETARIAT AND THE POLITICAL BUREAU
OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PDPA;

(B) ABDUL KARIM MISAQ, MINISTER OF FINANCE, IS
A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COM-
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PAGE 02 KABUL 06155 310422Z

MITTEE OF THE PARTY.

2. BECAUSE THE SAME NEWS STORY MENTIONED DEPUTY
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS MOHAMMAD ZARIF WITHOUT
CITING ANY PARTY TITLES, WE PRESUME THAT HE IS
SIMPLY A MEMBER OF PDPA, AS ARE ALL MINISTERS AND
DEPUTY MINISTERS.

3. A JULY 26 RADIO KABUL NEWS REPORT ABOUT DASTAGIR PANJSHIRI, MINISTER OF EDUCATION, DESCRIBED HIM AS A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU.

4. COMMENT: WITH REFERENCE TO DR. SHAH WALI'S TITLES, WE NOTE THAT HIS SECRETARIAT POSITION IS LISTED BEFORE HIS MEMBERSHIP IN THE POLITICAL BUREAU. THIS MIGHT INDICATE THAT THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ENJOYS A PREMIER POSITION HERE.

5. IF THE POLITBURO INFORMATION GIVEN US BY FOREIGN MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN AND DEPUTY FINANCE MINISTER MIR MEHRABUDDIN PAKTIAWAL (REFTEL) IS CORRECT, THEN MISAQ MIGHT POSSIBLY DISPLACE MINISTER OF RADIO AND TELEVISION SULAIMAN LAIQ IN THE EMBSSY'S LAST ESTIMATE OF POLITBURO MEMBERSHIP (PARACGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL). WE STILL THINK LAIQ IS AMONG THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MEN IN THE PARTY, HOWEVER.
DUBS

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